



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hugh E. McLoone et al.

Appln. No.: 09/286,739

Filed : April 6, 1999

For : COMPUTER INPUT DEVICE WITH
DIGIT SUPPORT AND NATURAL
POSITION ACTUATORS

Docket No.: M61.12-0124

Group Art Unit: 2774

Examiner:

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GAU 2774

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

20th DAY OF September, 2000

Thomas H. May
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This Amendment is before the first Office Action for
this case. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2, 4, ~~13~~, 15, 19-22, and 24.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5-7, ~~14~~, 16-18, and 25 as
follows:

1. (Amended) A mouse input device for a computer system, the
mouse capable of being moved across a working surface to move a
displayed object on a computer display, the mouse comprising:

an upper casing [providing a contact point for
contacting a user's palm when a user manipulates
the mouse];

a bottom surface designed to face the working surface;

a thumb pinching area located on a side of the mouse
proximate the bottom surface [such that a user's
thumb rests in the thumb pinching area when the
user's palm is in contact with the contact point];

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